

Message

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To: Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]
Subject: ECOS Seeks Vice Chairs, All-Member Topics, & CWA 401 Perspectives

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Nominations Sought by May 10 for Three Committee Vice Chair Positions

ECOS is pleased to announce three leadership opportunities for members. Until **May 10**, we are accepting nominations or self-nominations for candidates to serve as Vice Chairs of the Cross-Media, Planning, and Water Committees. Per the ECOS bylaws, the ECOS membership elects the Vice Chairs.

If you are interested in serving, or have confirmed the interest of a colleague in another state, please submit your nominations to [Sarah Grace Longworth](#) for the Cross-Media Committee, [Beth Graves](#) for the Planning Committee, and [Layne Piper](#) for the Water Committee. [Parisien]

ECOS Hosts All-Member Call on SMM, Welcomes Topics for Future Calls

On April 30, ECOS hosted an all-member call to showcase state innovations in sustainable materials management, featuring presentations from Ohio, Tennessee, and Oregon. On the call, state presenters highlighted:

- Ohio's Materials Marketplace, a platform attracting more than 1,000 members that helps to identify opportunities for reuse of surplus materials
- Tennessee's Re-TRAC Connect system, providing a user-friendly, transparent tool for collecting and analyzing solid waste data and

- Oregon's use of life-cycle assessment methods, which help to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of consumer products, buildings, and other materials throughout their life cycle.

ECOS welcomes member feedback on the structure of all-member calls and suggestions for future agenda items. Please send suggested topics to [Matt Klasen](#) of ECOS. [Klasen]

ECOS Gathers Perspectives on Clean Water Act 401 Guidance

As reported last week in *ECOSWIRE*, U.S. EPA, in response to last month's [Executive Order](#) on Promoting Energy Infrastructure and Economic Growth, has begun reviewing and updating guidance and regulations regarding state water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. EPA last week held an outreach [webinar](#) for states and tribes, and will conduct an additional webinar in May. The agency is accepting pre-proposal recommendations in an administrative docket (EPA-HQ-OW-2018-0855) [here](#). More information about this rulemaking and guidance development is available [here](#).

ECOS is gathering state perspectives on this issue. Please submit any information from your state to [Layne Piper](#) via email or at 202/266-4928. [Piper]



State News You Can Use

California Air and Ag Departments Launch Climate
Partnership

Pennsylvania Releases State Climate Action Plan, Joins
U.S. Climate Alliance

Maine Imposes Styrofoam Food-Container Ban

Nevada Marks Air Quality Awareness Week

New York Announces Funding to Promote Resiliency and
Protect Water Quality

U.S. EPA News

**Former Colorado PUC Chair Sopkin Tapped to Head U.S.
EPA Region 8 Administrator**



U.S. EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler announced this week the appointment of Gregory Sopkin to serve as Regional Administrator for Region 8. He succeeds Doug Benevento, who has moved on to become Senior Counselor to the Administrator for Regional Management & State Affairs. Deb Thomas had served as Acting Regional Administrator in the interim and returns to her deputy role.

Sopkin has spent much of his career in public service and private legal practice in Colorado, having devoted the last 12 years on energy, environment, and telecommunications matters. He most recently worked at Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP. Previously, he was Chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and before that was a state Assistant Attorney General on PUC-related matters. [Parisien]

Need-to-Know News in Air, E-Enterprise, Land and Waste, & Permitting

U.S. EPA Recaps Workshop on PM2.5 and O3 Air Sensor Performance Targets

Agency to Hold Another Workshop July 16

Area of Focus: Air, E-Enterprise

U.S. EPA has published an article – *Deliberating performance targets workshop: Potential paths for emerging PM2.5 and O3 air sensor progress* – summarizing the outcome of an international workshop in June 2018 to consider possible performance targets for non-regulatory fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and ozone (O3) air sensors. The article discusses key findings from the deliberations, and considerations for future actions specific to sensors. While the workshop did not attempt to yield consensus on any topic, recommendations included documenting best practices; sharing quality assurance results along with sensor data; and developing a common performance target lexicon, performance targets, and test protocols.

Through the support of the E-Enterprise Advanced Monitoring Team, state representatives participated in the workshop and as contributors to the summary article.

U.S. EPA will hold a second onsite and webinar workshop on **July 16** to provide a forum for stakeholders regarding nonregulatory performance targets for sensors that measure carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), particulate matter with aerodynamic diameters of 10 micrometers and smaller (PM10), and sulfur dioxide (SO2). National and international participants from academia, government, and manufacturing, along with sensor users, will address a range of technical issues involved in establishing performance targets. For more information and to register for the event, please see EPA's website.
[Poole]

U.S. EPA Updates Natural Disaster Debris Guidance

Area of Focus: Land and Waste

U.S. EPA has published an update to its Planning for Natural Disaster Debris guidance, which aims to assist communities in planning for natural disaster debris management before a disaster occurs by providing relevant information to increase community

preparedness and resiliency.

The guidance includes:

- Recommended components of a debris management plan
- Suggested management options for various natural disaster debris streams
- A collection of case studies that highlights how several communities prepared for and managed debris generated by recent natural disasters
- Resources to help plan for natural disasters and
- EPA's recommended pre-incident planning process to help prepare communities for effective disaster debris management.

For more information, see [here](#). [Parisien]

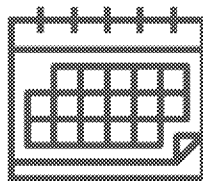
FAST-41 Permitting Improvement Council Holds First Engagement

Area of Focus: Permitting

On April 30, the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (Permitting Council) held its first Stakeholder Engagement Forum in Washington, DC. The Permitting Council was established by Title 41 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, referred to as FAST-41, to improve the federal environmental review and authorization process for large infrastructure projects.

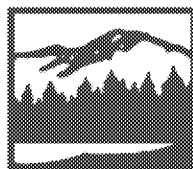
At the forum, the Permitting Council shared how FAST-41 can provide eligible infrastructure projects with improved coordination and predictability by requiring the development of a project-specific timetable for all environmental review and permitting actions. These timelines are posted on the [online permitting dashboard](#), which allows stakeholders to track the status of federal permitting activities and keeps all parties accountable. In addition, various companies and agencies shared how they have benefited from the Permitting Council and FAST-41 during their permitting process.

To learn more about the Permitting Council and how to become a FAST-41 covered project, click [here](#). [Swanson]



Upcoming Events

ECOS on PFAS



ECOS will hold its bimonthly PFAS **E C O S** Caucus call on **May 7 at 2-3 p.m. Eastern** to continue its discussion of state standards and other efforts.

Email [Sarah Grace Longworth](#) of ECOS for more details. [Longworth]

U.S. EPA on Hydrologic Connectivity

On **May 8 at 2–3 p.m. Eastern**, U.S. EPA's Office of General Counsel will host a call for ECOS members, the ECOS Water Committee, the ECOS Legal Network, and the Association of Clean Water Administrators will brief states on EPA's [interpretive statement](#) on hydrologic connectivity. EPA is accepting comments through June 7 [here](#).

To participate, call (866) 299-3188 and enter code 1980072. Please contact [Layne Piper](#) of ECOS for more information. [Piper]

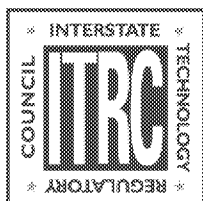
U.S EPA on WIFIA

EPA will hold three information sessions for prospective borrowers ahead of the Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (WIFIA) letter of interest deadline on July 5. The sessions will be held **May 8** in Atlanta, Georgia; **May 13** in Washington, DC; and **May 23** in

Phoenix, Arizona.

More information about the WIFIA information sessions is available [here](#). [Swanson]

ITRC on LNAPL Sites

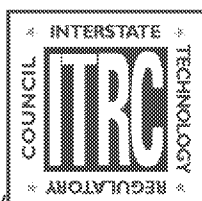


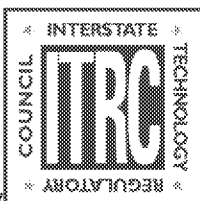
The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council will hold the second and third parts of a three-part online training course on *Connecting the Science to Managing LNAPL Sites*. Part 2 is on **May 9 at 1-3:15 p.m. Eastern**, and Part 3 is on **May 16 at 1-3:15 p.m. Eastern**.

The newly updated Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (LNAPLs) three-part training course series is based on the ITRC guidance [LNAPL Site Management: LCSM Evolution, Decision Process, and Remedial Technologies](#). Part 2 teaches participants how to develop an LNAPL conceptual site model and the overall framework for making remediation and management decisions. Part 3 teaches participants the importance of informed remedial technology selection and appropriate technology application.

Learn more and register [here](#). [Olonoff]

ITRC on PFAS Contamination

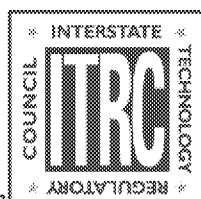


ITRC invites state environmental agency  representatives and others to attend in-person PFAS training classes in **St. Louis, Missouri on May 10**, and **Raleigh, North Carolina on June 21**. Taught by environmental experts, the classes will focus on PFAS regulations, site characterization, risk assessment, treatment technologies, and more. The classes are free for state and federal regulators and many others.

Travel scholarships are available for state staff traveling more than 50 miles. Please contact [Tadbir Singh](#) for more information.

Learn more and register [here](#). [Olonoff]

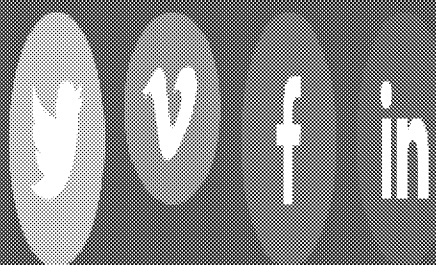
ITRC on Bioavailability of Contaminants in Soil



The ITRC will offer an online training course on *Bioavailability of Contaminants in Soil: Considerations for Human Health Risk Assessment* on **May 14 at 1-3:15 p.m. Eastern**.

Properly accounting for soil-chemical interactions on the bioavailability of chemicals from soil can lead to more accurate estimates of exposures to soil contaminants and improve risk assessments by decreasing uncertainty. After attending this training, participants will be able to: apply the decision process to determine when a site-specific bioavailability assessment may be appropriate; consider factors that affect arsenic, lead, and PAH bioavailability; use the [associated ITRC guidance](#) to select appropriate methods to evaluate soil bioavailability; and use tools to develop site-specific soil bioavailability estimates and incorporate them into human health risk assessment.

Learn more and register [here](#). [Olonoff]



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Environmental Council of the States
1250 H St NW Ste 850
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